

## Reponses to Comments

Comment Letter B	Response to Comment Letter B
<p data-bbox="226 272 600 313">Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group P.O. Box 1731 – Borrego Springs, Ca. 92004</p> <p data-bbox="226 407 352 423">December 5, 2011</p> <p data-bbox="226 461 359 477">Dear Mr. Schneider</p> <p data-bbox="226 496 936 568">Please consider this letter a formal protest from the Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group and the Borrego Springs Community Plan Committee regarding amendments to be considered to the General Plan Update and Borrego Springs Community Plan that may allow more flexibility in the development of Wind Turbine energy projects.</p> <p data-bbox="226 586 884 621">Wind Turbine energy projects in our community would destroy our scenic view-sheds that are so important to our communities aesthetics, character, and economy.</p> <p data-bbox="226 639 936 691">While the community seeks to promote itself as a community that embraces sustainability, eco-tourism, and innovation in energy development, the land use applications involving Wind Turbines <u>clearly</u> are not compatible and do not fit with our community character.</p> <p data-bbox="226 709 936 797">In addition to the destruction of our scenic view-sheds the development of Wind Turbine energy projects would be harmful to our status as an International Dark Sky Community, harmful to our wildlife, and harmful to our quiet scenic atmosphere that attracts so many of our property owners and visitors. These types of projects with their high profile appearance and large foot-print would have a severely negative affect our greatest economic driver – tourism.</p> <p data-bbox="226 834 905 870">Please seriously consider our concerns and do not allow more flexibility in the development of Wind Turbine energy projects in our community.</p> <p data-bbox="226 888 302 904">Thank you,</p> <p data-bbox="226 941 527 977">Abby King, Chair Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group</p>	<p data-bbox="1148 272 1822 391"><b>Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group</b> <b>Abby King</b> <b>December 5, 2011</b></p> <p data-bbox="1064 435 1110 467"><b>B-1</b></p> <p data-bbox="1207 435 1911 886">The County acknowledges the Borrego Springs Community Sponsor Group (CSG) opposition to the General Plan Amendment proposed for the Borrego Springs Community Plan. Both the Limited Large Wind Turbine Alternative and the No Project Alternative would maintain the existing language within the community plan. Ultimately, the County Board of Supervisors will determine which project or alternative will implemented. The information in this comment will be in the Final EIR for review and consideration by the Board.</p> <p data-bbox="1064 927 1110 959"><b>B-2</b></p> <p data-bbox="1207 927 1911 1380">It appears that this comment is referring to large wind turbine projects. It should be noted that the Borrego Springs Community Plan will still expressly prohibit large turbines where viewsheds would be adversely impacted. In addition, all such projects will require a Major Use Permit and will undergo project-specific environmental review for adverse affects to aesthetics and community character. While economic considerations are not typically analyzed as part of the environmental review, they can be presented to County decision makers.</p>

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	<b>B-3</b>	The County agrees that wind turbine projects can have substantial adverse effects to community character. This issue is discussed in Section 2.1.3.3 of the DEIR.
	<b>B-4</b>	The County agrees that wind turbine projects can have substantial adverse effects related to light pollution and wildlife. These issues are discussed in Sections 2.1 and 2.4 of the DEIR.
	<b>B-5</b>	While the proposed project does not include the approval or construction of any large wind turbine projects, the Wind Energy Ordinance would specify the permitting process for such projects and would retain the requirement for a Major Use Permit. The CSG's concerns regarding economic effects will be included in the final documentation for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
	<b>B-6</b>	The comment opposes the County's goal of allowing more flexibility for wind turbine projects. This opposition will be provided to the Board of Supervisors for its consideration.